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December 2020

## MS 76 Box 6 Notebook 10 - Bromley deeds; floods

Fred Bussey Lambert

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MS 76  
BX 6  
NBK 10

Bromley Deeds.

Floods.

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MS 76  
BX 6  
NBK 10

Rained 20 hours (Date not given  
but about Sept. 26, 1861)

River rising fast Saturday  
morning Big Kanawha backed  
up Ohio to Racine 20  
miles above the mouth.

Immense amt. of drift  
passing Sunday morning  
from Kanawha - houses,  
flatboats, salt cisterns,  
stacks of hay, sheaves of  
oats, chicken coops with  
some live chickens, rafts  
of logs, numbers of pumpkins  
In one 45 min., we counted  
six buildings, six haystacks,  
three salt cisterns, several  
flat boats, rafts, etc.

Monday night, the  
river came to a stand-  
still about 3 ft. below  
the last spring rise; and,  
on ~~Thursday~~ Tuesday,  
there was heavy drift  
running again, considerable  
property from quantities of lumber  
etc. probably R. & O.

1936 March 21 - 56.0

1937 Jan. 64.1

1945 Feb.

1948 Feb.

---

From Boulton Register

Jan. 28, 1862 Col 3 p 3

Top.  $\frac{1}{3}$  column on flood

This says the river  
is higher than ever  
known, even 1832  
not excepted.

Jan. 30, 1862 - p. 3 Col 3

near bottom comment  
says this flood ex-  
ceeded the floods  
of 1847 or 1852

Oct. 3, 1861

p. 3 Col 2

A long paragraph  
about the flood  
Sept. 26, 1826, early  
Thurs. night. Rain  
started early.

1826?  
Check as this  
must be error.  
Yes, it was.



1870 - 48 ft Jan. 20  
1870 - 47 ft ~~Jan~~ March 29

1873 - 47 Dec.

1874 - 49 Jan. 10

1875 - 52 Aug. 4

1877 - 47

1880 - 46 Feb. 17

1881 50.8 Feb. 14

1882 45 Feb. 13

1883 57 Feb. 9

1884 64.6 Feb. 11

1886 54 Feb. 10

1890 50.6 March 24

1891 46.6 Jan. 4

1891 54.4 Feb. 22

1897 Feb. 26 53.8

1898 March 26 57.7

1901 " 26 57

1907 " 61.5

1913 April 68.8

1927 January 55.8

1933 March 53.1

# Dates of Floods from Howe's History of Ohio.

Feb. 18, 1832 - 64 ft. 3 in. (Sat)

Dec. 17, 1847 - 63 - 7 in

Feb. 15, 1883 - 66 - 4 in

Feb. 14, 1884 71 -  $\frac{3}{4}$  in

March 26, 1890 54 - 2 in

(All for Hamilton Co. O.)

## Flood Dates

From a newspaper article,  
I think

1847 - 57 ft. December

1852 - 56.8 April 23,

1857 - 45, May 8

1859 50 Feb. 2

1860 53 April 1

1861 45 Sept. 27

1862 55.6 Jan. 23

1865 57.2 March 5

1865 46 May

1867 36 April 14

1869 45.6 April 2

Inton Register, Oct. 10, 1861

col 2 ?

"Flood - The flood of Kanawha, the late rise" was terrific - said to have risen 40 ft in 10 hrs, which we can hardly credit and to have been ten feet higher than ever before known."

---

Dates from Hildreth

Jan. 1813 (25th) Marietta

March (last 1815) Highest

April 1, 1815,

Feb. 12, 1832 (? as to date)

highest? at Wheeling

" 18 " (Cincinnati)

Article by J. H. Galbraith  
Jan. 19 25, in the Columbus  
Dispatch. He says "the  
flood of 1832 was the first  
notably great one in the  
Ohio Valley." The river soon  
reached the highest point

"American Friend and Marietta Gazette"  
Sat. Feb. 11, 1832

"The Legislature of Virginia are still engaged on the subject of abolition and the removal of free persons of color. Something will undoubtedly be done to remove the colored people from the State, probably to Liberia, and also for the gradual abolition of slavery. The result of late proceedings is deemed favorable to the cause of abolition says the Richmond Whig."

From the Richmond Whig,  
January 28, 1832

"Free" negroes and mulattoes, yesterday Mr. Broadnax from the select Committee on Slavery and Free Negroes, reported a bill to the Legislature devising the ways and means for deporting free negroes, and such as may become free, to Liberia. — The bill is a long one, but its principal features are, the appropriation of \$10000 for the current year, and \$20000 per annum, for succeeding years, to the

Bill  
passed on  
the 7th  
(February?)

Transportation of free negroes to  
Africa. The Governor, Executive  
Council, and Treasurer, are con-  
stituted a Central Board to  
superintend the execution of the  
act, with power to constitute  
other boards at Norfolk,  
Fredericksburg, Petersburg, or  
other places to aid in the  
superintendence."

---

American Friend and Marietta Gazette  
Feb. 11, 1863

Page 3 Col. 2.

"Since our last much rain  
has fallen - the creeks and rivers  
have all been filled to overflowing -  
and the great river now threatens  
inundation to all the low lands.  
At the time of putting our paper  
to press last evening, the banks of  
the Ohio, at this place, was beginning  
to overflow, and the water was  
rising at the rate of four inches  
an hour. There is much reason  
to fear the low parts of the town  
will be inundated"

---

American Friend, etc

Sat. Feb. 25, 1832 - Fine

long lecture on Temperance

---

American Friend, etc

March 3, 1832 -

(Nothing in  
previous paper)  
The ~~Great~~ <sup>late</sup> Flood. - We continue  
the accounts of the late flood  
in the Ohio  
as we receive them. - Among the  
we observe wherever Marietta  
spoken of, that it is consign  
almost to total destruction  
In the Wheeling Gazette of  
the 25th 1832.



paragraph. "It is said that at least fifty houses have been swept off at Marietta, and many others much injured.

And in the Athens "Western Spectator" of the same date is the following:

We learn by a private letter from Marietta that that town has suffered severely, loss estimated at \$50,000, about fifty buildings having been swept off, some of them dwelling houses; though generally of an inferior class. The greatest exertions were necessary to rescue many of the suffering from their dwellings, most of whom were taken from their second stories, and some, after the water had risen to the depth of several inches upon the floors.

The letter states that no lives were lost in that place; a family was taken from a building floating down the current, some of whom were still living others dead.

Our loss, by somebody, seems to have been estimated at \$50,000, that fifty buildings have been swept off, etc., etc.

It is our opinion that half the sum mentioned, perhaps one third, will repair all losses actually suffered. — Respecting the number of buildings carried

reckon the fifth part of that number that has gone off including hog-pens and other small buildings. It is true that many small barns, stables, and other outhouses have been removed from their foundations. The whole account is exaggerated, and a part of it is totally false, viz., that "the greatest exertions were necessary, to rescue many of the citizens from their dwellings" — and that "a family ~~of~~ was taken from a building floating down the current, some of which were still living others dead." No such family was known to have been floating near this place. It is desirous that the public should be informed of the state of the flood and the damage sustained by it; flying reports should therefore be passed by, and authenticated accounts only credited.

"The Ohio River arrested to its height, at the late flood, at Pittsburg, on Friday the 10th, at nine o'clock P. M. — at Wheeling, on Saturday the 11th, at 8 P. M. At Marietta, on Monday 13th, at 8 A. M. At Cincinnati, on Saturday, the 18th.

8 days  
from Pittsburg  
to Cincinnati.  
Crest at Marietta  
Mon. Feb. 13, 1832,  
at 8 A. M.



From The Kentucky Post, August 8, 1948.

AN EMINENT JURIST PASSES.

It is fitting that we pause a moment amid the daily happenings of life to consider the passing of a revered Campbell County leader, Judge A. M. Caldwell.

Not only was he a power in Republican politics of the county for three decades, but he compiled a sound record for achievement in high public office. That he had the confidence of the "man on the street" was attested by the many times that he easily won contests at the polls.

Judge Caldwell began his political career in his home town of Bellevue, when he was elected City Attorney in 1901. This embarked him upon a 30-year span in which he served successively as County Attorney, County Judge, and Campbell Circuit Court Judge. In the latter capacity he served 18 years.

At 76 years of age Judge Caldwell had lived a long and interesting life. He had witnessed and accomplished much. Residents will not soon forget that there is a little bit of Judge Caldwell in many projects and improvements in Campbell County.

FORMER CAMPBELL JUDGE DEAD.

66Caldwell prominent in local Republican Politics.

A veteran Campbell County Republican Judge A.M.Caldwell, 76, 452 Ward Avenue, Bellevue, died early Saturday in Speers Hospital, Dayton, after a brief illness.

Judge Caldwell, who suffered a stroke last week Saturday was removed to the hospital, and died about an hour after his arrival.

Active in Republican circles, Judge Caldwell served 18 years as Campbell County Circuit Judge until he was defeated by the late Judge Roger L. Neff, Democrat, in 1889. Following his defeat, Judge Caldwell retired to private life.

Previous to serving as Campbell Circuit Judge he was City Attorney of Bellevue, Campbell County attorney, and Campbell County judge. He had held political offices for 30 years.

A native of Le Sage, W. Va., Judge Caldwell was a member of the Henry Barnes Lodge of Masons, Dayton; A Shriner, the Scottish Rite, and one of the oldest members of the Newport Lodge of Elks.

He was also a director of Campbell County Bank, Bellevue, and director of Citizen's Building & Loan Association, Dayton.

He is survived by a daughter, Mrs.Bertha Gabriel, Piner, Ky. and a grandson, Wallace Gabriel, who graduated last may from U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. Mrs.Gabriel is the wife of Lewis Gabriel, who is statistical and census director of Kenton County schools. He also leaves three brothers, Granville, Robert and Conrad Caldwell, and a sister, Mrs.Grover Thacker, all of Le Sage.

Services will be held at 2 P.M. Tuesday in the Dobbins Funeral Home, Bellevue. Burial will be in Highland Cemetery, Ft. Mitchell. His wife, Mrs.Beulah Caldwell, and son Alfred Richard Caldwell died in September, 1932. They were buried on the same day.

Dates of Floods from  
Howe's History of Ohio

Feb. 18, 1832 - 64 ft. 3 in

Dec. 17, 1847 63 - 7

Feb. 15, 1883 66 - 4

Feb. 14, 1884 71 -  $\frac{3}{4}$

March 26, 1890 59 - 2

Above for Hamillon County

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Guyandotte Fight Nov. 10-11 1861

Barboursville " July 14, 1861

" " " "

" " Sept 8, 1862

Jonathan L. d. Sept. 7, 1856

Margaret L. d. Sept 24, 1865

Barrow Lib. of Cong

John L. McConnell's Western

Characters or Types of

Border Life in Western

States. — I got it & copied  
all I need)

# Flood Dates

1847 - December 5-7  
 1852 - April 23 - 56.8 (22 at mar  
 1857 - May 8 45.0  
 1859 - Feb. 2 50.0  
 1860 - April 1, 53 (April 13 at mar  
 1861 - Sept. 27, 45 O.K.  
 1862 - Jan 23 55.6  
 1865 - March 5 57.2  
 1865 - May 45  
 1867 - April 14, 36  
 1869 - " 2, 45.6  
 1870 - Jan 20 48  
 " Mar. 29, 47  
 1873 - Dec. 47  
 1874 - Jan. 10 49  
 1875 - Aug 4 52 (Paper missing  
 1877 - 47  
 1880 - Feb. 17, 46  
 1881 - " 14, 50.8  
 1882 - " 13, 45  
 1883 - " 9, 57  
 1884 - " 11, 64.6  
 1886 - " 10, 54

15

1890 -	March 24,	50.6
1891	Jan. 4	46.6
1891	Feb 22	54.4
1897	Feb 26	53.8
1898	Mar. 26	57.7
1901	"	57
1907	"	61.5
1913	April	68.8
1927	Jan	55.8
1933	March	53.1
1936	March 21	56.0
1937	Jan.	64.1
(1945 -	Feb	
1948 -	Feb	



Cincinnati Feb. 17th, (1832, I feel sure)

"The work of desolation still continues. We can not enumerate half of the sad calamities. From the "lookout" at the Commercial Hotel, there is an excellent prospect of Cincinnati, as it is. The waste of waters! The suburbs East and West, with the lower part of the city, as far as lower Market Street, are navigable in every direction. Newports opposite this city is pretty well afloat - the waters reaching nearly to the windows in the second story of the U. S. Arsenal. Covington does better, some dry land being yet discernible. The river as it sweeps past with its accumulated ~~waters~~ waters carries with it the wreck of its desolation. A church passed the city with its steeple. Excellent frame houses float along, with haystacks rails, leaving the farms, leaving the farms stripped of every vestige of cultivation. The lower Mill Creek Bridge started yesterday morning. Hamilton and Coalbain bridges, have also floated off.

and the bridge over white river  
in Kentucky, The Kentucky river  
had backed up as far as  
Frankfort, 64 miles above its  
mouth. The Cumberland and  
Tennessee were both very high."

Dayton, O. Feb. 21 (1832)

"The damage done by the  
Miami River has been very great.  
The fences in the bottom lands  
are generally swept off, and  
a great deal of corn which  
was still standing in the  
fields has been destroyed. Only  
one bridge over the Miami  
remains in a passable state—  
the one at Miamiesburg.  
The Dayton Bridge had its  
middle pier carried away, and  
will probably not be saved.  
The one at Franklin is in  
a similar situation. The  
one at Middletown was de-  
stroyed a few weeks ago.  
That at Coalrain has been  
swept off, and the one  
at Hamilton is injured."

The banks of the Miami  
Cathal were reported caved in  
for some distance at Cincinnati.

References to Life of Johnson N. Camden.  
Dictionary of Am. Biog., Vol. III  
p 433.

Callahan - W. Va. History of -  
Old & New - 1923.

Atkinson & Gibbons - Prominent  
men of W. Va. (1890)

1928 - Biog. Dict. of Am. Cong

Daily State Journal - Parkers  
burg, April 27, 1908

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much War News.

"Home News". Marietta, O.,  
has nothing in Sept. 1861, about  
a flood. I followed it through  
the whole month & pt. of October.

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Home News - Oct 12, 1861.  
p. 2 - "Letter from the Thirty  
Sixth, from Camp Pratt Va.,  
Oct. 7, 1861, on board  
Steamboat, Ben Franklin  
Parkersburg, down Ohio to  
Pt. Pleasant & up Kanaw  
ha,



to Scary Battle field, the writer says:

"Great Damage has been done throughout the Big Kanawha by the late high water which was several feet higher than it was ever known to be before" (First mention I saw)

This seems to indicate this flood was local.

---

~~He~~

"The Parkersburg Gazette is mentioned in same paper as above"

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Total Eclipse of Sun to be July 18, 1860, only Total in a small part of Oregon & Washington, but partial throughout U.S. Astronomers say it will be most important this century.

---

Home News

Sat. July 20, 1861 - p. 2

Fine Letter in Col. 2, on the War. Last paragraph mentions fight at Bull Run. 2 Columns. They

Home News,  
Maretta

Saturday Feb. 1, 1862

p. 2 - Col 2

The Flood. - The river which has flowed past our town since the memory of the oldest inhabitant, has been swelling hugely of late, in consequence of the recent warm weather and heavy rains. The river gods took a notion to leave their beds on Sunday night, the 19th, and had a high old time, a regular cold water spree, in our lower streets, during a portion of last week. The Ohio commenced raising on Saturday, the 18th and by Sunday afternoon, its increasing height began to excite the fears of the people around the point. Horses and cattle were driven to higher ground, the contents of cellars were brought out on the pavement, and numerous teams were employed in hauling barrels and boxes of goods to places of safety.

Feb. 19th

Feb. 20,  
1861

From this time till morning, there was no sleep for the dwellers on the low ground. They kept up a continual racket, moving lumber, building boats, etc., preparing for the water, which still came upon them like a "thief in the night." On Monday, the lower part of Green Street was under water from the upper bridge, to below the Postoffice, and the embankment or levee on Green Street near the Gas works, was broken, by the "hell of waters" which came in upon Texas. The Muskingum came over its banks on Tuesday night, (~~Feb. 4~~) and overflowed the interval above Pulnam Street. Wednesday noon the flood was at its height, being about six feet less than that of April 1860. From that time it rapidly subsided, giving us time to wash off pavements and clean up generally.

Crest  
Feb. 23, 1861

The very gradual rise, being only three or four inches an hour for the first few hours, enabled our citizens to save their exposed property,

and as the first floors of  
portion of the buildings in the  
lower part of the city were submerged,  
little damage was done. People  
had ample time to improve  
the "water privilege", so unexpectedly  
furnished at their own doors,  
and seemed to prefer it to the  
mud, which had formerly been  
such a hindrance to locomotion.

The streets presented a lively  
appearance. It was a glorious  
time for visiting, sight seeing,  
and pleasure excursions. Skiffs,  
yawls, pirogues, barges, ferryboats,  
life-boats, and john-boats, besides  
all manner of uncouth rafts, were  
filled with joyous crews, who  
seemed to consider high water like  
skinning eels — nothing when you  
get used to it. One romantic  
young lady said the scene was  
"perfectly magnificent," and com-  
pared it to Venice. We couldn't  
see the gondolas nor any bridge  
of sighs, except that across  
the muskingum, both the other  
being under water. On the whole  
we consider the flood as quite  
a relief from the ennui of  
war time, and would rather per-  
out a cellar for a change than  
read an editorial in the "Marie  
Republican" " 1900 "

# The Home News

April 13, 1861

p. 2 col. 2. 1 Paragraph

High Water. - This is high water anniversary week, and a year ago today, the water in our office where this paragraph is written, was somewhat taller than our long President. There was fun in Marietta about those days. The week has been celebrated by the elements, a heavy rain having fallen on Monday night and Tuesday. This caused our creeks to assume the flowing style. Duck Creek up about the oil region overflowed, - 4-5 ft. around the Dutton well. Wednesday pleasanter and neither Ohio nor Muskingum overflowed, etc (not quoted)

## Home News

April 6, 1861 - Minton Hovey, age 32,

d. April 1, 1861, b. in Londonderry, N. H., came to Marietta with his parents, in 1840.

Business man, mechanic, affable husband, kind son, health gradually failing for past year.



The Home News

(Flood, April 13  
1860)

April 21, 1860

(Several nos. missing  
previous to this)

## "Marietta under Water."

The most extraordinary inundation with which Marietta has been visited since its settlement, came down upon us last week—extraordinary from its suddenness as well as from its apparent lack of cause; for all the rain that has fallen here from the beginning of April to the present time does not amount to 3 inches—a quantity altogether inadequate to make a rise of two feet in the Ohio.

On Monday morning the 9th (April) the Muskingum began to swell; but nothing was thought of it. On Tuesday both rivers rose rapidly; but as no rain had fallen here to justify a large rise, no danger was apprehended. On Wednesday morning (April 11th) the question was, whether the water would come over the banks, but would it come into the stores and dwellings; the water rose all day at the rate of 8 or 10 inches an hour;

April 11,  
1861

Crest  
Fm. April  
13, 1861

and great was the rush of goods and chattels to the upper shelves and stories. Long before night, no dry ground was left on the Point. Still higher came the aqueous element, and early in the evening, (of Wed April 11,) it reached the floors of the stores and residences of that favored locality. Thursday morning (April 12) I found it over three feet deep in our office, and still rising four inches an hour. At noon it slackened off to three inches, and gradually lessened till Friday (April 13th) at noon, when it came to a stand, the water being six feet and five inches in our store and office, nine to ten feet in the street in front of us, ten inches higher than the flood of April 22, 1852, and about three feet below the flood of February 1832. Friday afternoon, the water commenced receding, and fell so rapidly that the "dry land" appeared on Sunday morning, and on

Monday morning both rivers had  
retired to their usual channels!"  
----- etc.

"The Muskingum was the  
chief cause of our troubles; that  
river above Lowell and Beverly,  
being from nine to fifteen inches  
higher than ever known before.  
It continued to rise some time  
after the Ohio had come to a  
stand"

---

Damage - "Fabulous damage"  
reported, but not true. Con-  
sidering the suddenness, the  
damage has been remarkably  
small.

"The lower bridge on Front  
Street was slightly broken, -  
the sidewalk on Green Street  
was washed away about 40 ft  
lamp posts bent over, and  
other slight damage done,  
to the amount probably of  
\$300 or \$400 in all."

Several hundred dollar  
worth of lumber, tannery  
overflowed, bark wharves &c.  
Loss of business to mer-  
chants, etc. Some bridges damaged  
on Muskingum river.



21

Same April 21, 1861

The Editor complains that a lowboat, the Vulcan with 8-10 barges went up the river "close to our shores" "throwing waves against our buildings, rocking them from their foundations, throwing down houses and fences, and doing much damage to property" - Should be made pay. The Emma Graham also went up the Muskingum on wednesday - doing much damage. - <sup>Editor</sup> Editor later explained he had to find a place to tie & would pay damages.

---

( The Editor says the Cincinnati weeklies give full acc'ts of the present floods. Same date as above - Home News.

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# Home News

April 28, 1860

No. 2, Col 3.

"High Water at Parkersburg.-

The "Parkersburg News", in giving the particulars of the late flood in that city, says the water was eleven feet deep at the point, 12 feet, at the junction of Ann and Neal streets, and ten feet on the railroad track, on Market street. Forty or fifty houses and stables were removed from their foundations, some of them having floated away. The lowest estimate of damage is \$25000. In comparing this with previous floods, the "News" says:

"The depth of water at this place was fifty-eight six inches above low water mark. The water was higher by about eight inches than it was during the great freshet of 1852. ~~J. Williams, one of the pioneers of the country,~~ sixteen inches above that of 1847, and three feet six inches below the renowned rise of 1832.

Previous to that time, and since the first occupancy of the Ohio Valley by white men, there have been but two freshets which surpassed the present one. In the year 1772, J. Williams, one of the pioneers of this country, made a visit to this locality, which was then only the home of savage and wild beasts. — He afterwards informed Mr. Isaac Morris of this place, that there were then plainly visible water marks, on the Court House location. These signs of high water were quite fresh, and Mr. Williams judged had been left there the preceding spring. — Again in the year 1813, there was a great freshet, during which the water rose eighteen inches higher than during the late inundation, and lacked but two feet of being as high as in 1832. There were no general inundations between these periods than the ordinary

covering of the grounds which often occurs.

For the convenience of reference, we append the following Table of great freshets, showing the date, time between them, and height above low water mark of each, at this place:

Date	Time Between	Height
1772		65 ft
1813	41 yrs.	60 ft
1832	19 yrs.	62 ft.
1847	15 yrs.	57 ft.
1852	5 yrs.	57 ft. 10 in.
1860	8 yrs.	58 ft. 6 in.

Notwithstanding the less depth, it is probable there was more water passed this place, (Parkersburg) in a given number of hours, during the late fresh, than in any preceding one. This would follow from the fact that the river is now much wider than it formerly was, and the absence of trees allows a more free passage of the water."

By F. B. Li - It's said that "it's  
an ill wind that blows  
nobody good. The following  
is part of an ad. in  
The Home News, of April 28,  
1860:

"Great Excitement  
Important Event!

The Great Flood of 1860  
Has abated; but the desire  
for some of these choice  
styles of Spring and Summer  
Goods still increases." etc.

Ripley and Sherman

---

The Editor says: - The  
Pomeroy Telegraph had only  
three feet of water in its office

---

Home News

May 5, 1860

p. 2 Col. 1 -

On May 1, 1860, a few  
minutes past 12 M. a  
noise was heard which  
afterwards was ascertained  
to be an explosion of a  
meteor. It appeared to  
come from a N. westerly  
direction. Some thought a  
boat had exploded. It was  
heard at 2 miles N. W. of C.

The Home News Oct. 5, 1861

p. 3 Col. 2.

☞ "The late flood was terribly destructive in the lovely Valley of the Great Kanawha. —

The suddenness and extraordinary character of the rise found the people unprepared to meet it. The water rose 40 feet in ten hours — ten feet higher than was ever known before, and swept houses, barns, fences, and crops to everlasting destruction. Even Charleston was submerged — a thing that never happened before; while the salt works above there were completely ruined. A friend who happened to be in that region, gives a vivid picture of the desolation caused by this unparalleled flood. The devastation is equal to that caused by the presence of a Secession army.



The Home News

Sat. Feb. 26, 1852,

### The Ohio with Full Banks

The Editor says: — Last week (no date given) — "the swell of waters" kept on coming until Monday evening (Feb. 21, 1852?) when they were a couple of feet of being as high as the corner of Front and Ohio streets. The low ground along the banks of the "Red River" were overflowed, with a portion of Front Street between the bridges and below Butler Street. The water even found an entrance in sundry cellars, and in a few cases into the lower floors of tenements located in low places."

"The backwater was still as a lake" — people enjoying themselves in shiffs, etc.

"The Total rise here was about 32 feet, making about 40 feet in the channel, — higher than at any time since 1852. No considerable damage. A few got in the water. —"

## The Home News

Sat Feb. 26, 1859

p. 3 Col 1

→ "The banks of the Ohio have had a most disastrous run made upon them during the last week," banks caved, deposits removed,

"The blow unexpected fell upon them, with great severity, on Sunday last; and many an acre of valuable dirt inconveniently caved" \*

The Editor of the Republican says they are valuable to farmers, because of deposits, etc — but says the Home News Editor, how about acres washed away?

\* This would make the date of the crest Sunday Feb. 20, 1859. at Marietta



The Home News

March 5, 1859

p. 4 Col 2

More About High Water. -

"Considerable discussion has taken place in regard to the actual height of the recent rise in the Ohio, and sundry different statements being given.

Mr. Graves, the resident engineer of the Union Railroad, has prepared the following, taken from actual surveys. -

They may be relied on as correct. The base line spoken of is the low water mark at Cincinnati, as fixed in 1838:

Height of R.R. Bridge above baselin  
" " " " 118 ft

" of water in 1832, 118½ ft.  
1847, 113¾ "  
1852, 115 "  
1859, 107 "

\* "The top of the rail on the R.R. bridge when built will be 48 ft. "

In 1833, water rose above low water mark 4

1847 - - - - - 4

1852 - - - - - 4

1859 - - - - - 36

\*

The Marietta Intelligencer

Vol. IX No. 23

Thurs. Dec. 16, 1847

"Our Paper"

Editor states he got out two papers last week, but as no mail can reach the post offices in the County this week, he will print only a part of a sheet containing legal ads., etc

"The Rivers"

"Are now receding. All the streams emptying into the Ohio near this place have been higher than at any time before for more than fifteen years (1832) — some of them, Duck Creek for example — higher than ever before known. The Ohio here did not reach the high mark of '32 by about six feet. But the accounts from below lead us to believe that many places have suffered much more than they did in that memorable year —

A gentleman who came up last night says that at Portsmouth on Tuesday, the water was within ten inches of the flood of '32.

Dec. 14,  
1847, at  
Portsmouth

and rising rapidly. Our accounts from Cincinnati are that the flood ~~at~~ would much exceed that of '32, as all the rivers from there up were pouring out more rapidly than ever before."

---

same date -

The Farmer's Duck Creek Bridge a few miles above the mouth of Duck Creek, was in great danger of floating off during the late freshet. One end of it was raised and sibung down stream, but as the waters began to fall, efforts were making to bring it back to its place which would probably be successful.

The (Marionette) Intelligencer  
Dec. 23, 1847 — (2 cols + )  
Gives reports from cities all  
the way from Cincinnati up.

It would be well to have this  
typed.

Following are notes.

(Flood) "very general, and  
unusually destructive".

Lacked about 6 ft. of high  
water mark of '32.

Tribularies of Ohio near Marionette  
much higher than ever before known.  
Little Muskingum 4 ft higher  
Duck Cr. 10 " "

Tribularies of Big Muskingum  
Wolf Cr., Big Run, Olive Green,  
Meigs Cr., & others unprecedented.

Crops swept clean, bridges  
gone, — not one left this  
side of Zanesville on Muskingum  
& many others on creeks, etc.

One farmer, J. W. Dana of  
Beverly lost 1000 <sup>valuable</sup> sheep, 400  
of corn, & a great deal of  
fence. 100 a corn lost  
on the Stull farm.

Zanesville - Muskingum  
extraordinarily high

From the Herald of Steubenville;

"Ohio rose on Sat. last  
several feet higher than  
than it has risen within  
the memory of the oldest  
inhabitant, and on that night  
began to subside.

From Parkersburg Gazette of 15<sup>th</sup>

Dec. 15, 1947 "This morning at 9 o'clock  
the waters began to recede.  
5-5 ft. above low water  
mark. Flood of 32, 60 ft.  
Bottoms overflowed &  
washed of everything.  
Islands submerged, houses  
carried off and toppled  
over. Ravages difficult  
to imagine.

Pomeroy - Railroad  
suffered much

Portsmouth - Entirely  
under water. Steam  
boats landed passen-  
gers on the first  
floor of the U. S.  
Hotel, which is six  
or eight feet above  
the pavement."

Much higher than

18.32.

1847 40  
Maysville - Height without  
a precedent

Aberdeen inundated.

Citizens seek higher  
ground with neigh-  
bors.

Water higher  
than ever known,  
(much higher than  
1832, at Porto  
mouth)

Thursday morning  
at Ten o'clock

River is about  
five feet higher  
than during the  
memorable flood  
of 1815 - and  
what is still  
alarming, is still  
rising."

Maysville sup-  
posed to lie on  
a bottom 10-15  
ft. higher than  
the sites of the  
majority of river  
towns.

Only roofs of houses in  
Aberdeen above water.



Cincinnati - Reports contradictory  
yet conceded that water was  
in less than a foot of '32-  
1000's rendered homeless.

All bus. suspended  
Miami & Mill Cr. bottoms  
covered.

Mr. Ewing has presented  
the matter to the Legisla-  
ture.

Lawrenceburg - Water 5 ft. 9 in  
above flood of 1815.  
3-5 families in one  
house in places.  
"Palladium"

Louisville - 400-500 houses  
in city, under water.  
Foundries, warehouses  
flour & saw mills, pork  
houses, manufacturing  
establishments, stores &  
dwellings.

River has fallen 7-8  
feet. hence we resume  
publication of The  
Journal

Rise 10th to 16th  
of Dec. here.

51 ft (unprecedented)  
above low water mark

"Our oldest inhabitants agree, that within their recollection, the Ohio had never been so high by four or five feet."

The Scioto Gazette:

The Messrs Frasier at the Paul Bollons lost 100 hogs drowned Fri. night.

The late rain appears to have been general over U.S.

The Frankfort Commonwealth:

The flood in Elkhorn unprecedented.

Nashville Tennessee, Hudson River etc. all high

Same Thurs. Dec. 30, 1847 -

Mr. Ray of Cincinnati, in a letter to the Chronicle says "From the 1st of Dec. 1846, to the same period in 1847, the whole

amount of rain was  $66 \frac{1}{4}$  inches, being about  $\frac{1}{2}$  more than the annual average, and over five and a half feet in perpendicular depth." Same through out the West. & Prof Hamilton of Nashville Tenn. reports more by data from meteorological register

Marietta Intelligencer

Sat. Evening

April 17, 1852

p. 2 Col 5

Article

"High Water - Destructive Flood  
Rept. for Pittsburg, Reed

yesterday (16th) flood  
in Allegheny very destructive  
& further rise expected  
as rain cont.

Last reports yesterday 2 P.M.  
Telegraph poles washed  
away this side of Wheeling

10 o'clock A. M. Today  
(Marietta) rising rapidly  
Now higher than anytime  
since 47.

Lower Ward of Marietta has  
only been submerged once in  
last 20 yrs. but in that  
case people take refuge in  
second ward.

Marietta fortunate  
in that the bend in  
the river takes the force  
away from the town,  
hence buildings in higher  
portions can't be washed  
away, & in "grounds  
which are submerged,  
the water is perfectly  
quiet." Besides much of  
our town is "many feet  
above even the flood of '53."

Books To order from  
Marietta College Library

Signal Service Notes No 15  
Danger Lines & River Floods  
Washington City Signal  
Office 1884

---

Water Supply Paper No 334  
The Ohio Valley Flood  
of 1913

---

The Great Flood of 1884  
in the Ohio Valley by  
John L. Vance (Edited)

---

Hist. & Philosop.  
Society of Ohio  
Journal 1838

---

Horrors of The Modern  
Deluge. Great Floods  
Miss & Ohio Rivers,

---

The Main Librarian is  
Mr. Geo. Blagier,  
College Librarian  
Marietta.

The Marietta Register  
Under date of <sup>Thursday</sup> March 9, 1865, quotes  
The Cincinnati Commercial  
of last Saturday (March 4, 1865)

"The gay, fast and favorite  
Saturday packet, Wild Wagoner.  
Capt. H. H. Brown, returns to  
Gallipolis, Pomeroy, Parkersburg,  
Marietta, and Wheeling, this  
evening, even if it rains  
pitchforks."

The Wild Wagoner is  
the crowned monarch of  
the Upper Ohio, in point of  
speed, splendid accommoda-  
tions, and sumptuous fare.  
The Philosopher Chris Best,  
and the heavy tragedian  
Knox, will administer to  
the passengers, and shippers  
at the office."

Marietta Register Thurs. March 9, 1865

## Notice

~~The Big Sandy~~

The Subscription Books of  
the Big Sandy and Paint Creek  
Oil Co. will be open for the  
subscription of stock at the  
Office of R. R. & E. C. Dawes,  
Marietta, Ohio, on Tues.,  
March 14, 1865

W. P. Cutler &

(Judge of  
Marietta)

others,  
Corporators

---

Marietta Register of 3-23-65

"<sup>Markets</sup> Marietta, March 22, 1865

Apples, dried per bu. \$2 25 to \$2 60

" Green per <sup>box</sup> 4 50 to 5 00

Beans per bu. 2 00

Butter, Roll per lb. 35-40

Beeswax, per lb., 40 @ 45

Corn, in ear, per bu., \$1 00

Corn, shelled, per bu., \$1 25

Copper, per lb. retail, 50

Candles, tallow, <sup>box</sup> per lb. 24 @ 2

Eggs, per doz., 15

Flour, per brl. \$10 @ \$11



Flax seed, per bu. 1 \$2<sup>00</sup> @ 2<sup>25</sup>  
 Molasses, Sorghum, per gal. 1<sup>00</sup> @ 1<sup>20</sup>  
 Oats per bu. 75 @ 80¢  
 Potatoes, per bu 1<sup>00</sup> @ \$1.50,  
 Salt per brl 3 25 @ \$4<sup>00</sup>  
 Sugar per lb 25 @ 30c.  
 Sugar, refined, retail per lb 28 @ 35¢.  
 Soap, retail, per lb 15 @ 20c.  
 Tallow per lb 12 @ 15¢  
 Wheat per bu. 1<sup>00</sup> @ 2<sup>00</sup>  
 Hay per ton \$25 @ \$30  
 Rags per lb 4 @ 5c  
 Coal, at river, per bu. 15¢  
 Wool per lb 75 @ 90  
 Oil, carbon, crude, per ~~lb~~ brl. 15 @ \$17  
 Oil refined, per gal \$1<sup>20</sup>

March 9, 1865 is first no. follow-  
 ing March 5<sup>th</sup> when a flood  
 in the Ohio is supposed to have  
 occurred. I searched to  
 March 23, 1865, & found nothing  
 Also April 6, "

Same March 30, 1865, more about the  
 "Wild Wagoner" on p. 3.  
 Capt. Brown, Clerk J.C. Bell, Stewart Jackson Col. &  
 Louisa, Va.

That occurred & best equipped boat we were ever on.  
 Capt. Brown the most popular.

The Marietta Register

Thursday March 9, 1866

~~p. 3~~ p. 3, Col. 2

~~"The river column of the Cincinnati Commercial, last Saturday, has this: (This was about the 'Wild Wagoner', Steamboat~~

The Marietta Register

Thurs. March 9, 1865.

p. 3, Col. 1.

"The water was higher, at this point last Monday, (March 7, 1865) than before, since January 1862, yet it was not what is called high water, in Marietta. By the way, it is a mistake that some have that floods appear here periodically once in fifteen years. In Feb. 1832, was the great flood; the next was at Christmas, 1847, almost sixteen years thereafter; the next, in April, 1852, only a little over four years more; the next in April, 1860, in eight years."

Marietta,

March 7, 1865.

The Marietta Register

Thursday, Dec. 18, 1873.

"Some Notes on Floods at Marietta

The rivers here have been high this week — higher than before, since January 1862, twelve years ago next month, when the water was about a foot above what it was now. Yet it was not one of the big floods, such as came upon this locality nine times in the last hundred years. It came to a stand, Monday evening, when Front Street, below Putnam, was under water which barely came upon the floors of a few stores — was just even with the floor of the post office, and about six inches below the floor of the front of the stores of Bosworth, Wells, and Company.

The most notable flood here, since the first settlement was in February 1832. — over ten feet higher than it was this week; yet in June 1772, it was some three feet higher, at Wheeling.

than it even was in 1832, as marked by the first settlers there, at the backwater, at the falls of Wheeling Creek.

In 1778, there was another flood, within two feet of the mark of that of 1832; and in 1784, the water here was just about the level of that of 1832, as appeared from marks upon the cabin of Isaac Williams, on his "Toma-hawk improvement," opposite the mouth of the Muskingum.

When the first settlers began building on the low bottoms at Marietta, in 1788, Indians shook their heads, and said they had seen the water up to a certain height on the sycamores, but their warnings were disregarded as exaggerations, and, for twenty-five years after, there was no flood here to overflow the banks of the rivers, or twenty-nine years after the great flood of 1784. But, in January 1813, the security of

Marietta people was sadly disturbed when came upon them one of the most appalling floods, known in our history, the famous "Ice Fresh", as it was called. The river was full of very heavy running ice, causing great destruction of property. The water came to a stand Jan. 28th, (1813), at which time it had turned severely cold, making ice thick enough so people could walk on it over all the lower part of the town, at a height of five or six feet above that of the water, this week.

April 1, 1815, the water was a little higher than it was in 1813, yet but little damage was done.

The famous flood of 1832, was at its height here February 13th. The winter began early and ice stopped navigation, in the last of November, 1831, the mercury standing at  $12^{\circ}$  above zero on

the 28th and 29th (of Nov.)  
December 18th, it was 10°  
below zero. From Jan. 20th  
to Jan. 30th, 1832, sixteen  
inches of snow fell here,  
and in the first part of  
February snow lay upon  
the ground over a foot  
deep; and, in the mountains,  
it was three or four feet  
deep. Heavy rains came on,  
eight inches of rain falling  
here from Feb. 1st to the  
12th. The water began  
rising on Thursday, 9th,  
and came to a stand  
on Monday, 13th, ( ),  
when it stood about two  
inches deep on the floor  
of the building now used  
for the Preparatory Depart-  
ment, in the college yard;  
and it was some fifteen  
inches deep in the rooms  
of the house of Mr. Hildreth.  
The river was out of the  
banks for nine days, the  
destruction of property  
all along the Ohio was imm



At Pittsburgh, the flood (of )  
was at its highest on the  
morning of the 10th ( ).  
Wheeling, afternoon of the 11th;  
Marietta, morning of the 13th;  
Cincinnati, morning of the  
18th, where it was over sixty  
feet above low water.

The next high flood  
was here was in Dec.  
1847, about six feet below  
that of 1832; and on April  
22, 1852, about four feet  
and a half below.

The great flood of  
April 13th, 1860, was  
next to that of 1832,  
at this point, since the  
first settlement, coming  
up within about three feet  
of the highest mark in  
1832.

Notes might be made  
on these floods, to the extent  
of columns of the Register,  
which might be of interest,  
but space must limit to  
a mere outline.

High Water Holes  
Some of the boys made  
fifteen dollars ferrying every  
body over the river to  
Putnam Street.

Most of the fun of Monday  
occurred on Water Street.  
The beer business won't drown. —  
It apparently flourished during  
high tide.

There was quite a demand  
for rubber breeches Monday  
Wednesday — boots cheap.

Much surprise was mani-  
fested because the druggists  
emptied their cellars. It was  
found that, in their opinion  
it wouldn't stand any more  
water and stand the fire  
and proof tests.

Monday, a <sup>cashier</sup> banker promised to  
show watered stocks before  
night. He did.

In conclusion, there was  
more gas in town Monday,  
than Monday night.

Tuesday, April 11, ~~1815~~ 1815. (Q.K.)

"Our apology for not issuing the American ~~for~~ for the last two weeks, is the great derangement of our printing apparatus, occasioned by the uncommonly destructive freshet we have lately experienced". (I read to May 12, and found nothing further)

---

On the back page of the above paper is a "religious" letter addressed to Thomas Jefferson, which seems to be from a Quaker admirer, uneasy for fear Mr. Jefferson will not be saved. Date - Aug. 29, 1813

---

Mr. Jefferson's reply shows he was a liberal Christian, and gives his beliefs.

It was dated Monticello

Sept. 19, 1813 (Q.K.)

Above was copied from the Columbian.

The Intelligencer  
Moneller Jan. 29, 1862.

"Great on Comedences"

The Cincinnati Commercial of  
the 25th (Jan 1862) says:

He tries to show that There  
was a "remarkable and unex-  
pected fact" etc. of comedences  
that 15 yrs separates floods  
of 1832, 1847, 1860, etc.

The Intelligencer points  
out that the highest 3  
floods were 1832, 1847, &  
1860, hence <sup>interval of</sup> only 12 yrs.  
between last two —

Nothing very remarkable  
but they did occur in  
winter

---

58  
The only ad. I saw in this paper (except a <sup>and</sup> ~~desertion~~ <sup>stray</sup> ad) was by a patent medicine "doctor".

J. W. Hyatt, M.D.

Gr. son of the late celebrated Mr. Robertson of Edinburgh and for sale only at the Proprietor's Wholesale and Retail Drug and Family Medicine Warehouse, Phila and by retail of his agents throughout the U. S.

These were:

Mr. Robertson's Celebrated Stomach  
& Laxative of Health \$1 <sup>50</sup>

He recommended it to be the most valuable medicine ever offered to the public, for the cure of coughs, colds, consumption, whooping cough, asthma, pain in the breast, cramps, wind in the stomach, headache, loss of appetite, indigestion, etc."

Also for Dysentery or Lax, Cholera Morbus, etc. All pulmonary diseases, "it will give immediate relief."

Dr. Hyatt's Anti-Bilious Pills, 50¢

"These pills, if timely administered will remove the causes which commonly produce the Yellow Fever, Bilious Fevers, Ague and Fever, Cholera, Hypochondriac and Hysterie Complaints," etc

He has other remedies:

Dr. Hyatt's Patent Itch Ointment 50¢

" " Infalible Tooth Paste 50¢

" " Cyreassian Eye Water

" " Celebrated Gout and Rheumatic Drops, \$2<sup>00</sup>

" " Vegetable Balm of Life, &c

The Balm of Iberia

Extracted from the Iberian Plant for curing defects of the skin, and improving the complexion, etc

\$2<sup>00</sup>

Cheaper prices in quantity for cash

Country storekeepers want to sell on commission



Marion.  
The Western Spectator Vol. 1, No. 3.  
Tues November 6, 1810

Printed at Marion, Ohio,  
by Joseph Israel and  
Caleb Emerson.

(Very little in it  
except Foreign news, legal  
ads, etc)

Vol. 1 No 4 was dated

Tues Nov. 13, 1810. \$2<sup>00</sup> per  
also for 1811 & 1812 annum.

---

The American Friend

April 24, 1813 to  
Jan. 12, 1816, & no doubt  
many others

---

Same - n. 1 Vol. 2 No 5.

Advertises The Land Office  
at Zanesville, Ohio, Nov. 2, 1811,  
with a law of Congress  
on sale of Public Lands.

The College Library  
has Photostat service,  
at 25¢ a page.

It might be well to  
photostat this -

---

An extra Spectator between  
Nov. 23 & Nov 30, 1811. Photostat

The Intelligencer <sup>Wednesday 22</sup>  
manilla Jan. 23, 1862  
p. 3 Col. 1

### "The Overflow."

"The Ohio," etc. --- "commenced swelling on Saturday (Jan. 18, 1862, and came up so fast as to create some alarm on Sunday (19th). In the afternoon of that day, the people about the point began to look after the valuables in their cellars, and the streets presented a lively animated scene. — Drays, express wagons, carts, etc., engaged in hauling goods to higher ground, and the sidewalks lined with barrels and boxes, and anxious busy men. The water continued to rise with greater or less rapidity all day Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday till noon. All the lower streets in the city are flooded. The water broke over the embankment on Green Street above Fourth Tuesday morning and overflowed Texas (St.), and Tuesday night about 12 o'clock ran over the highest point on the Muskingum bank and

flooded all that part of the  
Town above Pulnam Street  
and below the second plain  
All except six or eight of  
the stores and dwellings on  
Front Street below Pulnam,  
have from one to two feet  
in the lower floors. The rise  
is about six feet less than  
that of April, 1860.

The sufferers make the  
most of their hardships, and  
take them so cheerily that  
one would think they regarded  
high water as nice sport.  
There are nearly as many  
persons in the street as  
usual, It is wonderful  
where so many water crafts  
come from. There is the three  
ton barge, the pretentious  
skiff, the rolling dugout,  
the canoe, the scow, the  
bonyant life-boat, the raft,  
and many more of unknown  
names. All bearing merry  
and laughing crews. This is  
a gala day, in Marietta,  
and we doubt if Venice ever  
presented a more joyous scene

65

It is impossible, at present, to estimate the damage sustained.

The rise was so gradual—never more than five inches an hour, and only a few hours, at that rate— that time was given to remove goods and effects to upper stories and other quarters

(Jan. 23,  
1949)

"At the time of going to press — Thursday noon — the water has receded about three feet, and falling rapidly

A plaque just beyond the  
Ohio River Bridge, Williamsou (1 square)

"Williamsstown

Named for Isaac Williams who  
settled here in 1787, on land  
preempted in 1770 by Joseph  
Tomlinson and his children,  
Joseph, Samuel, & and Rebecca  
Williams, veteran of border  
wars, married Rebecca Court  
met at their home in 1800"

(Exactly copied)

# The 1913 Flood

## The Gallipolis Tribune

March 25, 1913 p. 3, Col 2., in

"News of the River, says:

"River 12.9 feet and falling at noon!"

March 26, 1913

p. 1, Col 4

Headlines: "Terrible Floods Sweep Ohio,

Tremendous Downpour of Rain Brings Disaster to Many Cities.

"Big water is coming in the Ohio," but probably the lower river will suffer more. "The following is a summary of the news so far received:"

Wheeling 30 1/2 ft. ris.

Parkersburg 22 1 ft. "

Pillsburg 20.1 " "

Franklin 29 ft. "

Springfield - "Mayor of Dayton reports water 13 ft. deep in Union Station, with 5000 lives lost and 50000 people homeless.



March 25, 1910

Cincinnati. — Death, flood and desolation reigned supreme in Dayton, Middletown, and Hamilton. The Lewistown reservoir broke, at 7 o'clock Tuesday and in two hours, Dayton resembled a sea more than a city.

"Sixteen reported dead in Hamilton," 19 at Delaware, Twelve drowned, at Hamilton.

Columbus. — Leaving death and destruction in its wake, what is said to be the biggest flood in the history of the State swept Ohio today. Taking a toll of lives probably more than 100 people.

Millions of dollars loss, cutting off the city with millions of lives lost.

16 rept dead in Hamilton Township, 19 at Delaware, 12 in Hamilton

Columbus & some surrounding towns.

Since many towns were cut off, actual losses could not be estimated.

Gallipolis Tribune

It is probable that 50000 or more people homeless in the State tonight (March 26, 1949. Probably 50000 in the State.

Same

~~March 26, 1913~~ Mistake. Nothing

~~p. 2~~ 3-26-1913

11

The new "Kinetophone" the moving pictures which talk. Edison's latest invention, was exhibited at a vanderbilt house in Columbus this week. The man who saw the ~~new~~ talking movies, said it was hard to keep from applauding the players, at times, they seemed so real.

Tribune

March 26, 1913

p. 3, Col. 3.

River 18.1 ft. and rising 6 inches per hour, at 8:30 A.M.

Indications of a stage of 40-50 ft. coming. Rivers rising rapidly at headwaters, "with 22 ft. at Franklin this morning which means a flood."

Wednesday March 20, 1913.

Major S. F. Neal, local government  
weather observer, reports 1.8 in  
of rainfall, Tuesday night

---

" Drivers Tom Hutchins and  
Ed Moore, who have been at  
work at the Guyan Bridge  
wreck since Jan. 4th, and  
were here at Dam 26, when  
the Parkersburg was sunk, etc.  
( Query was the "Guyan  
Bridge wreck", the one at  
Guyandotte? )

---

Tribune March 27, 1913 -  
p. 3, Col 3

"News of the River"

"River 40 ft. and rising  
about 8 inches per hour, at  
9 a. m."

Reports:

Pittsburg 27 ft. ris.

Wheeling 45.8 " "

Marion 43.5 " "

1 Kanawha Falls - Rising  
rapidly this morn-  
ing.

The prediction is "we will have at least 55 ft. here, if not more

The flood of January 1913, reached a crest stage here of 53.9 ft. on Sunday the 12th (January)

The Muskingum reached a stage of 40 feet at Marietta at Zanesville, which is about the highest ever known. Marietta and Parkersburg are both flooded. Pomeroy and Point Pleasant will be by Friday!

Danger lines

Pittsburg 22 ft

Parkersburg }  
Marietta } 36 ft

Point Pleasant 38 ft.

Boats up & down the river laid up or went to the bank

"It now takes but two or three days of heavy rain without any snow to cause a disastrous flood in the Ohio."

But an Ohio River flood is not to be compared with the recent flood out in the State of Ohio when it comes to loss of life.

"The Tom Hods worth with a heavy tow of empties passed up for Pittsburg at 9 this morning" but making slow head against the rapid current

"Packet business as well as railroad business will be paralyzed along the Ohio until the flood subsides!"

---

Friday March 28, 1913

"Situation at Dayton  
Horrible"

"500 coffins have been ordered"

"Many stalwart men are going about in tears of sorrow at being unable find their families and relatives". Large number on point of famishing for both food and water

"Many children have been born in boats and some

in all sorts of conditions. It is supposed that 65000 people are homeless till the water goes down." Exaggerate fores. "At one time it was impossible to get within two miles of the business portion of the city, and the chemicals in drug stores exploding and burning, caused people to think things were really worse than they were. But they were bad enough without exaggeration. Chopping holes in roofs to rescue people was very common. People clinging to telephone poles, doorways, and everything that would keep them from being swept away, were to be seen everywhere

Sat  
March 28,  
1913

Gas explosions, mains cut off, people without food or fire,

"One man marooned with his family on a house top, where help could not reach him saw that all must perish either by drowning or burning, and he shot



every one of them and himself.

Many Gallipolis people have friends there but must wait for Telegraph and Telephone lines to be established before they can hear from them.

City is under martial law.

The Suspension Bridge over the Scioto went down yesterday.

Fri  
March 28, 1913

Chief Devereaux of the Cin. Weather Bureau wired Major Neal, local weather observer Gallipolis would have a stage of 60 ft. by tonight. The stage of weather here in the flood of 1907 was about 58 or 59 feet."

Late River News:

Pittsburg 30.2 ft. Falling slow  
Wheeling 58.8 in., rising 4 in. per hour.

Kanawha Falls 25.4 ft. - Falling

Charleston 34.4 ft. rising.  
Expect one more foot

Tribune

Thurs. March 27, 1913

Five people went down with the Bridge over the Scioto above Portsmouth yesterday.

---

"The pour-down of water last night was tremendous but this morning it was colder and a light snow was falling and we think the worst is over!"

"It is certain that Central Ohio never had such a flood as it has had this week, in all its history. There was 22 feet, in the Scioto, at Columbus, higher than ever was known before, and the damage in the city is serious. It forced itself into the O.P. Property loss in crops is simply awful. Columbus, Cincinnati, and Dayton were suffering beyond all precedent."

The Gallipolis Daily Tribune

Fri. March 28, 1913

"Ravenswood had 22 inches less than '84, and was rising 6 inches per hour, at 2:30 this afternoon."

"There was about 64 ft. of water here in 1884, same p. 3 Col 2? or 3?"

"News of the River"

River passed 54 ft. stage & raising 6 in per hour this morning before 10 A. M.

Parkersburg 55 ft this morning & rising 3 in. per hour

Reported by Mr. Howe, Chief of Weather Bureau at Parkersburg that the flood was 2 ft. higher this morning than in 1884, & 3 ft. more expected.

Muskingum from Zanesville down higher than in 1884.

"No steamboats running.  
Yet, there is news in  
"News of the River", clearing  
mentioning several steamers  
that are running.

Capt. Gordon C. Greene went  
to Cnr. on the Greendale this  
morning.

60 ft. at Cnr. last  
night, and rising.

The Conway, a towboat,  
went up with part of her  
tow, last night. to mo. of  
Kanawha.

---

Sat. March 29, 1913

p. 1 "Any number of houses  
have gone by in the flood,  
Some real nice ones sitting  
as squarely in the water  
as if on their foundations.  
Everything besides houses  
that would float might  
enumerated, haystacks,  
strawstacks, all sorts of  
boats, barges, or anything  
representing total destruction."

Same 3-29-1913 71  
Sat. "About \$20000 worth of stock,  
horses, cattle, and hogs, are  
huddled in barns over the  
river, with water all around  
and even in the ~~water~~ <sup>barns</sup>."

The fat cattle and hogs  
will be hard to save. The  
others may be got to the  
hills.

---

Sat March 29, 1913

p. 2. — Notes from  
the editorial "An Editor's  
Dull Day"

"Much talk of the floods  
which hourly increase in  
volume, with great loss  
of property, in all the  
surrounding territory."

"Many wild rumors afloat  
of loss of life."

"All that is known is  
that Pont Pleasant, Pomeroy,  
Middleport, Parkersburg,  
and Marietta are in soak."

"Many liars abroad on  
the streets with tales of  
other floods"

No mails, no trains then

Can't get newspapers from some  
places, hence, don't know the  
news.

Saturday March 29, 1913  
p. 3 - 63.7 ft. & rising about  
3 in per hour at 9 o'  
clock this morning

The Steel City land up  
at Ashland (going to Pitts-  
burg) because of labor  
troubles.

River will probably  
start falling Sunday

Jubilee April 1, 1913. (Tues)  
p. 1 Col. 2 or 3(?)

"Some 1884 Flood Figures."

"We take the following Galli-  
polis statistics from Col. Vance  
History of the 1884 Flood, ver-  
batim, in all instances.

The water was at its  
highest, Feb. 11, 1884. Several  
men (named) rode around  
band stand in the Public  
Square, in a skiff.



Col. Vance gives the stage here at 65 feet, in the flood of 1832, and 71 ft. 3 in., in 1884. This of course was before the Government mark was established, and was 4 ft. 9 in. higher than the present Government mark <sup>would</sup> put it, figuring the 1913 figures at 66 ft. 6 inches.

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31 inches above 1884

Tues.  
April 1,  
1913.

"According to Capt. Ed Mad. dy's marks considered absolutely correct, the water went above the 1884 flood just 31 inches".

---

Same p. 1 Flood Notes

"The water went back around Gallipolis making a perfect island of it. by following the low ground."

---

Enough rats drowned to load the U.S. navy

---

Tues. April 1, 1913

p. 2 - Editorial

Three High Water Days"

Flood reached the curb  
of the P. Q. - an unheard of  
event in Gallipolis; flood  
proof for 123 years (since  
1780?)

At 10:45 of the clock this  
day March 29, 1913, the marble  
mark of the great flood of  
1884, set by Capt. John C.  
~~Shepherd~~<sup>and</sup>, on the South side  
of the Public Square, and  
noted for nearly 30 years as  
the highest point ever <sup>to be</sup> reached  
by an Ohio River flood, was  
covered by the multiplied  
waters."

With this event fled  
forever the belief that it  
was impossible for the Ohio  
to climb into the city proper,  
and men wondered where  
the tide would reach."

"All day long it climbed  
steadily up, up, up," etc

Many houses escaped by 2-3

Sunday inches.

Wed. ~~Mon~~

March 30, 1913

(Date of editor.  
trial - when  
written)

"So Gallipolis, in the greatest flood ever known, had only its lingerie, so to speak, moistened with fully two thirds of the city high and dry, with gas and water service unimpaired.

"At noon, there was no longer doubt that the flood was at its full height; and by 8 of the clock, at night, it seemed certain that the waters were beginning to subside."

"Much amusement over the disappearance of the Government water gauge built a year or so ago." —

Marks supposed to be beyond the height of any possible flood, but it was lost to view beneath the yellow water."

31 st - "Up to six to be sure, the water was receding, it had fallen in 10 or 15 minutes."

Tribune April 1, 1913 (Tuesday)

p. 3 - News of The River

Capt. Ed F. Maddy says that according to his mark at the corner of State and First Ave., the flood on March 30, (1913) was 31 inches above 1884 (This was Sunday March 30, 1913)

The stage reached by this flood was about 67 ft.

"The water became stationary Sunday forenoon, about 9 o'clock, and in 12 hours, was beginning to recede."

Flood sufferers were aided

The W. K. Field hit the bridge pier of the K. & M. R. R. Monday morning early Friday morning & swung around and sunk a house on

Tallapoosa

It was a heart rending scene for all the family but a little girl jumped on the barges but she was left to drown. When a yawl reached the wrecked house she had disappeared.

Capt. Miles Brown and Engineer Sam Rankin took the ferry boat Francis over into the Poplar Grove stock farm and saved several thousand dollars worth of property. Sunday morning.

The Carrie Brown (Capt Brown) will not resume her trips to Huntington before next Monday.

Same Last p. "Never in the history of the United States have we had such a calamity as this in Ohio, Indiana, and the Ohio Valley. It overtops everything."

Daily Tribune

Wed. April 2, 1913

"The homes of people that have gone past here, in this flood, can only be guessed at. Hundreds have been seen to go by, in the day time, and perhaps as many more in the night. Some of those that left East Gallipolis and Maple Shade are muddled together above the Mill Creek Bridge as though misery loved company."

Wed. April 2, 1913 p. 2

The editor predicts floods will be worse.

He says: "With conditions of weather the same, Ohio River floods will grow greater and greater. Water runs more quickly to the streams on bare ground, than through the mosses and the spongy carpets of the forest, and as our woodlands disappear, one by one, our prospective floods increase in volume and suddenness



No system of reservoirs or  
storage dams can put in  
harness even the beginnings  
of a full grown Ohio River  
flood. The only remedy is  
to cultivate more forests,  
all through the watersheds.

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Huntington has 15000  
homeless flood refugees. It  
draws our sympathy. And  
the entire business section  
was wet to the second story.  
It is a shame that such a  
city should be at the mercy  
of flood conditions.

Wed April 2, 1913.

Flood Notes (n 3)

Crest (Sunday)  
(March 30th  
1913)

The water came to a  
stand about noon Sunday.  
Capt. J. A. Shepard said  
no one ever saw the like  
of it, but old Noah and  
at 5 Sunday, a slight  
decline was noticed, &  
declined 6 to 8 in by  
Monday at 9 o'clock

# Flood Dates from Advertiser

Feb. (16) 1832 (Cincinnati?)

"

Dec. (16) 1847.

Feb. 15 1883

Feb. 14 1884

} Nowes

1813

April 1901

March 1902

Feb. 1903

March 1903

Jan. 1904

Jan 1907

March 17, 1907

Jan. 19, 1908

March 10, 1908

April 2, 1908

March 26, 1912

Jan 13, 1913

March 27-29, 1913.

Feb. 16 1948

Feb 3, 1883 (Marionetta?)

June 1772

Spring 1778

March 1784

Jan 1809

See Hildreth

Journal of  
the Historical  
& Philosoph. Soc.  
of Ohio

Last of March 1815  
& April at Ma  
retha

Jan 25, 1813  
at Maysville

. Sept 29, 1861

Flood of 1907

87

The Gallipolis Daily Tribune

Tues. March 14, 1907

p. 1

### "Another Flood On"

Predictions that it will become higher than in January, by three feet.

Others say it will be higher than in 1884.

The excessively heavy rains of the last week have put all streams and tributaries of the Ohio on the jump, and for the past 36 hours the Ohio river has been swelling, until it is painfully evident that another flood is on, but we sincerely hope that the fears of the people will not be realized.

The last Hocking Valley Train came in three hours late Wednesday afternoon. Last night there was none nor none today, and there are no trains running into Lancaster. Travelers can get neither North nor South, not even to Columbus. From Minerva on the Hocking Valley line, it is lake covering a vast extent.

March 14, 1907 88

At Logan, it is said, the water is higher than ever known. It is impossible to telegraph anywhere, the lines all being down, except to Charleston.

This Thursday morning, there was 30 feet of water, at Pittsburg, with half of Allegheny under water, and it was expected to go 41 to 45 feet.

Indeed, there seems to be a general flood of waters in Western Pennsylvania, and with melting snow there is no telling what to look for.

John Hanna telephones from Manella that the flood will be three feet higher than in January.

It was already higher at Parkersburg than in January, and many were predicting it would go on than in January.

All the C. & O. west of Huntington is under water.

The Norfolk and Western train left Columbus Wednesday morning and has not

89

The B. & O. S. W. is tied up at Zaleski. The fast train is tied up with 45 travelling men who cannot get either way.

Railroad men have received instructions to weight down every bridge above here.

The river raised here last night ten feet, and has been climbing all day. We have no mails and can neither send or receive messages by telegraph. At Charleston, this morning there was 17 feet, at The Falls 12, and rising 6 inches an hour. There were heavy rains all along Kanawha last night.

This morning, it was 30 feet at Pittsburg, and at three this afternoon, 45 feet and rising!

The Gallipolis Daily Tribune  
Friday March 15, 1907

### Flood Notes

Franklin 8.5 ft. & falling

Pittsburg 35.8 " & "

Wheeling 47.8 " " ris.

Parkersburg 48.1 " " "

Kanawha Falls 13 ft. & fal.

Kan. R. falling as far as  
Lock 8. Steamer Kanawha out  
for Pittsburgh at 6 o'clock  
this evening.

21 ft. at Charleston at  
6 o'clock this morning  
and rising.

Carrie Brown up last  
night with a big crowd  
from Huntington.

Rev. Elmer Conway was  
among the Huntington crowd,  
his father reported dying at  
Columbus, & no way to get there  
it took all forenoon to  
get a phone message through.

Campagna & Raccoon  
Cr. reported higher than  
ever known.



Flood unprecedented at Athens. Several houses washed away and several ~~house~~ persons drowned

Capt. Brown thinks river will rise until Sat. evening slowly

Water higher at Marietta than in 1884 - 40 ft there Thurs. evening, & 7 ft. coming

---

Friday March 15, 1907  
Capt. John Thornburg of Kanauba was in the City Thursday.

Doesn't favor the idea of dams. but we relying on the opinions of many intelligent persons, differ

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The Gallipolis Daily Mail

Saturday March 16, 1907

n.1 The Latest Flood News

From Friday's Enquirer

{ Pittsburg - Highest since 1882  
\$10,000,000 loss of property  
Loss of wages \$750,000. daily.

Whole town of Majorsville  
swept away by Big Wheeling  
Creek

3000 homes submerged,  
in Wheeling.

Within 4 ft. of 1884, at  
Steubenville.

Portsmouth soaking in  
muddy waters.

Raccoon Cr. higher than  
for 40 years.

All Mergs Co. streams  
the highest in their history.

The Carrie Brown brought  
up 30 passengers from Hunt-  
ington & took 17 guests  
of the Park Central Hotel  
to Huntington who ex-  
pected to get from there  
to Charleston besides a  
good many others.

March 16, 1907 92

over the pike the other side of  
Bert Waddell's.

The water in the Ohio, passed  
the 1901 mark this morning,  
which as we understand it  
was counted next to 1832.

The flood of 1884 surpassed  
1832 by 7 ft. here.

The water is more than  
2 ft. higher than it was  
last January, and it is ex-  
pected to go three feet higher.  
That would make it two  
feet higher than in 1901.

It still would lack  
about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  ft. of 1884.

In Pomeroy, this morning,  
it was four feet higher than  
in January (1907)

22 bridge carpenters  
from Charleston came down  
on the Neva, & went up  
on her to Middleport. It  
is believed to be 2 weeks  
before trains can run, as  
they say every bridge on  
the K. & M. is down.

94

The Daily Tribune  
Tuesday, March 19, 1907

p. 1 'How Glad We Are'  
To state the fact that  
follows this headline.

A train will be down from  
Columbus, Wednesday evening. An  
army of men at work.

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From Athens

Dr. Claude Parker had a  
conversation with Mrs. Parker who  
is visiting in Athens (yesterday af-  
ternoon), and she told him in  
substance that the bodies of  
all those who had been drowned  
up there had been recovered  
except Ed Sweat. Scenes up  
there simply awful. Some had  
to cut holes through the roofs  
of their houses with ordinary  
pocket knives to escape and  
strap their children to themselves  
and cling to the roofs of  
their homes until they could  
escape from them to adjoin-  
ing trees, where they could  
be rescued with ladders and  
boats.

The way they gave the alarm Thursday morning was to ring the fire bells, which they did at 3 o'clock. Public lights all out.

Ed Sweat who was drowned, was with another man first to get a boat and get out to rendering help.

Mr. David White says than in 1847, Raccoon was two feet higher than this time.

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Above seems to be the final on this flood. Nothing to show when the crest was reached.

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Thurs. Jan 3, 1907

### "The Flood of '47."

"According to Henry Favore's record, this day fifty-nine years ago, there was considerable water in the river. It was the flood of '47, which occurred in the week preceding Christmas. The water reached 61 feet December 20, and remained about stationary. It was only a little lower than the flood of '32.

Of course, it was eclipsed by the 84 flood. The water covered Second Street nearly to Washington.

From the  
Portsmouth  
Times,

During the flood, a steamship built at Pittsburg passed down, running like a racehorse with her own steam. She was destined for the China trade. Mr. Favore has a complete record of all the Ohio floods from 1832, to the present time, and he keeps it up.



Jan 3, 1907

p. 2

"It is said that the first improvement of the Ohio river of any note occurred in the year 1825, and consisted principally of removing snags and the building of "wing" dams. In that year a boat left Cincinnati, and got as far as Lelart Falls, Ohio, where she turned back for Louisville after meeting another boat from Marietta. Both of these steamboats removed several thousand snags on the trip. Up to 1850, it is said that only \$50000 had been expended on Ohio river improvements."

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The Gallipolis Daily Tribune

Tues. Jan. 7, 1907

~~Thurs.~~ p. 2 "There is a flood in the lower Ohio, below Louisville the water being the highest since 1884."

---

~~Thurs~~

Wed. Jan. 9

River 26 ft. & rising

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Fri. Jan 11

"River 26 ft. & rising slowly"

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Sat Jan 12 p. 1

Lively controversy over location of Ohio River Dams.

Gallipolis may get one. Long article

Sun. Jan 13, 1907

River 30 ft. & rising

The heavy rains will stir up all side streams again and lowlands will be danger

Mon. Jan 14, 1907

Editor predicts There  
will be no flood in  
the Ohio river unless there  
is more rain.

Gallipolis 37.0 ft & ris.

Tues. Jan 15, 1907

Gallipolis 39.0 & ris.

Last p. Col. 1

"There is a flood  
coming out of the  
Great Kanawha river,  
and people at Point  
Pleasant were moving  
out to-day. (Continuing

( It seems that on  
Jan. 20, 1907, the flood  
reached 54.0 ft. &  
then fell

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